

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-10 and 12-19 read on elected Species A, drawn to a method of making a transreflector from a transparent substrate comprising applying a reflective coating to one side of the substrate and forming optical shapes. Claims 11 and 20-25 are non-elected claims withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1, 12, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Caferro (U.S. 5,958,326). According to the Examiner, Caferro discloses the instant method of making a transreflector (*i.e.*, optical article with portions which transmit and portions that reflect light) by thermoforming a sheet to make a lighting louver, wherein a reflective coating is applied to certain portions of the sheet either before or after it is thermoformed to make angled reflective portions (14a) and other angled (14b – angled at least with respect to portions 14a) non-coated light transmissive surfaces.

However, nowhere does Caferro disclose or suggest a method of making a transreflector from a transparent substrate by applying a reflective coating substantially entirely covering one side of the substrate and thereafter thermoforming the one side to form a plurality of reflective surfaces on the one side that have the reflective coating thereon and displace portions of the one side between at least some of the reflective surfaces so as to form a plurality of other light transmissive surfaces that are angled relative to the reflective surfaces and do not have the reflective coating thereon as recited in claim 1. Nor does Caferro disclose or suggest a method of making a transreflector from a transparent

substrate by forming a plurality of spaced first surfaces or areas and a plurality of second surfaces or areas between the first surfaces or areas on or in one side of the transparent substrate and then applying a reflective coating, film or layer on the first surfaces or areas to reflect ambient light but not on the second surfaces or areas so the second surfaces or areas transmit light from a backlight as recited in claim 12. Accordingly, claims 1 and 12 are submitted as clearly allowable.

Claims 13 and 15 depend from claim 12 and are submitted as allowable for substantially the same reasons. Moreover, claim 13 further patentably distinguishes over Caferro by reciting, *inter alia*, that the first surfaces or areas that are formed on or in the one side of the substrate are angled so as to be in a common line of site and the second surfaces or areas are angled so as to be out of the common line of site of the first surfaces or areas, and that the reflective coating is a metallized coating that is deposited onto the first surfaces or areas using a line of site deposition technique that does not deposit the metallized coating onto the second surfaces or areas. This is clearly not taught in Caferro.

Claims 2-10, 14 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Caferro in view of Japanese Patent 2000-173324. The Examiner acknowledges that Caferro does not teach the aspect of texturing the light transmissive surfaces as set forth in claims 2-6, 10 and 16-18, varying the optical shapes as set forth in claims 7-9, and applying an antireflection coating to the light transmissive areas as set forth in claim 19.

Concerning the texturing and formation of optical shapes on the light transmissive areas, according to the Examiner, it would have been obvious to modify the method of Caferro by providing optical shapes on the light transmissive surface of the sheet as generally taught by Japanese –324 to diffuse and “soften” the incoming light. However, Japanese –324 merely discloses a diffusing louver 20a with light diffusing surfaces fitted under a light distributing plate 20 through which the light passes, not forming textured light transmissive surfaces or optical shapes on or in light transmissive surfaces that are thermoformed on one side of a transparent substrate as recited in claims 2 and 3 or wherein the light transmissive surfaces or areas on or in one side of a transparent substrate are textured or formed with optical shapes as recited in claims 16 and 17. Nor does Japanese –324 disclose or suggest forming optical shapes or a pattern of individual optical deformities on or in the other side of a substrate (*i.e.*, the side opposite the side on which the light transmissive surfaces or areas are formed) as recited in claims 4-10 and 18. Accordingly, even if it were proper to combine the teachings of Japanese –324 and Caferro in the manner suggested by the Examiner, which applicants do not admit, these claims still further patentably distinguish over the cited references in addition to being dependent on claim 1 or 12, respectively.

Claims 14 and 19 depend from claim 12 and also further patentably distinguish over the cited references, claim 14 by reciting in the claimed method that the reflective coating is hot stamped onto the first surfaces or areas, and

claim 19 by reciting the further step of applying an antireflection coating to the light transmissive second surfaces or areas.

For the foregoing reasons, this application is now believed to be in condition for final allowance of all of the elected claims 1-10 and 12-19, and early action to that end is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner disagree with applicants' attorney in any respect, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney in an effort to resolve such differences.

In the event that an extension of time is necessary, this should be considered a petition for such an extension. If required, fees are enclosed for the extension of time and/or for the presentation of new and/or amended claims. In the event any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this reply, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 18-0988 (Attorney Docket GLOLP0113USA).

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

By 
Donald L. Otto
Registration No. 22,125

1621 Euclid Avenue
Nineteenth Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2191
Phone: 216-621-1113
Fax: 216-621-6165

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